

# **APPENDIX A**

## **GLOSSARY**

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### **Assignment**

The designation of priority level(s) for a defined NSEP telecommunications service for a specified time period.

### **Audit**

A quality assurance review in response to identified problems.

### **Contracting Activity**

The organization responsible for negotiating and awarding contracts for the telecommunication services required by a service user. (Not all service users obtain their telecommunications services through contracting activities. Procedures vary among service user organizations for interacting with telecommunication service vendors or with the TSP Program Office. Refer to "Service User.")

### **Government**

The Federal government or any foreign, state, county, municipality, or other local government agency or organization. Specific qualifications will be supplied whenever reference to a particular level of government is intended (e.g., "Federal government," "state government"). "Foreign government" means any non-U.S. sovereign empire, kingdom, state, or independent political community, including foreign diplomatic and consular establishments and coalitions or associations of governments (e.g., North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Organization of American States (OAS), and United Nations (UN); government agencies or organizations (e.g., Pan American Union, International Postal Union, and International Monetary Fund).

### **Invocation Official**

An individual authorized to invoke NSEP treatment. Invocation officials include: the head or director of a Federal agency, commander of a unified/specified military command, chief of a military service, commander of a major military command, or the delegates of any of the foregoing. State Governors are authorized to invoke NSEP treatment in response to state or local disasters and/or emergencies for which no Federal participation is expected to be requested.

Delegates may only include a general or flag officer of a military service, civilian employee of equivalent grade (e.g., Senior Executive Service member), Federal Coordinating Officer, or Federal Emergency Communications Coordinator/Manager. Delegates never have invocation authority by virtue of title alone, but must always be identified by the invocation official and designated as such in writing to the Manager, NCS. No Federal agency may delegate the authority to invoke NSEP treatment other than as specified in this manual.

### **Invoking NSEP Treatment**

Notification from an invocation official to a service vendor that a TSP service is so vital that it must be expeditiously provisioned. This invocation is conveyed to the service vendor by means of a provisioning priority in the TSP Authorization Code. Passing the provisioning priority to the service vendor will normally result in additional charges from the service vendor to the service user for the faster than normal provisioning.

### **National Communications System (NCS)**

A confederation of Federal departments, agencies, and entities established by Presidential Memorandum of August 21, 1963 and reaffirmed by Executive Order No. 12472, "Assignment of National Security and Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications Function," April 3, 1984.

### **National Coordinating Center (NCC)**

The joint telecommunications industry - Federal government operation established by the NCS to assist in the initiation, coordination, restoration and reconstitution of NSEP telecommunication services or facilities.

### **National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Telecommunication Services (or NSEP Services)**

Telecommunication services that are used to maintain a state of readiness or to respond to and manage any event or crisis (local, national, or international) that causes or could cause injury or harm to the population, damage to or loss of property, or degrades or threatens the NSEP posture of the United States. Within the TSP System, these services fall into two specific categories, Emergency NSEP and Essential NSEP, and are assigned priority levels.

**National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Treatment**

The provisioning of a telecommunications service before others based on the provisioning priority level assigned by the Manager, NCS in accordance with this manual.

**Prime Service Vendor**

A service vendor who contracts with a service user to provide a TSP service. A prime service vendor may subcontract a portion of the service to other service vendors (i.e., subcontractors). A typical example is an interexchange carrier contracting for a service, then subcontracting the local loop portions to local exchange carriers.

**Priority Action**

The assignment, revision, revocation, or revalidation by the Manager, NCS of a priority level associated with an NSEP telecommunications service.

**Priority Level**

The level that may be assigned to an NSEP telecommunications service specifying the order in which provisioning or restoration of the service is to occur relative to other NSEP and/or non-NSEP telecommunication services. Authorized priority levels are designated (highest to lowest) E, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for provisioning and 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for restoration.

**Priority Level Assignment**

The priority level(s) designated for the provisioning and/or restoration of a particular NSEP telecommunications service.

NOTE: The terms "TSP assignment" and "priority level assignment" are used interchangeably in this manual.

**Private NSEP Telecommunication Services**

Those non-common carrier telecommunication services including private line, virtual private line, and private switched network services.

**Provisioning**

The act of supplying telecommunications service to a user, including all associated transmission, wiring, and equipment. As used herein, “provisioning” and “initiation” are synonymous and include altering the state of an existing priority service or capability. (Wiring and equipment may not be provided by the carrier on a regulated basis).

**Public Switched NSEP Telecommunication Services**

Those NSEP telecommunication services utilizing public switched networks. Such services may include both interexchange and intraexchange network facilities (e.g., switching systems, interoffice trunks, and subscriber loops).

**Reconciliation**

The comparison of TSP service information and the resolution of identified discrepancies.

**Restoration**

The repair or returning to service of one or more telecommunication services that have experienced a service outage or are unusable for any reason, including a damaged or impaired telecommunications facility. Such repair or returning to service may be done by patching, rerouting, substitution of component parts or pathways, and other means, as determined necessary by a service vendor.

**Revalidation**

The rejustification by a service user of a priority level assignment. This may result in extension by the Manager, NCS of the expiration date associated with the priority level assignment.

**Revision**

A change in priority level assignment for a TSP telecommunications service. This includes any extension of an existing priority level assignment to an expanded TSP service.

**Revocation**

The elimination of a priority level assignment when it is no longer valid. All priority level assignments for a TSP service are revoked upon service termination.

**Service Identification**

Information uniquely identifying a TSP telecommunications service to the service vendor and/or service user and provided to the Manager, NCS.

**Service User**

Any individual or organization (including a service vendor) supported by a telecommunications service for which a priority level has been requested or assigned.

**Service Vendor**

Any person, association, partnership, corporation, organization, or other entity (including common carriers and government organizations) that offers to supply any telecommunication equipment, facilities, or services (including customer premises equipment and wiring) or combination thereof. The term includes resale carriers, prime contractors, subcontractors, and interconnecting carriers.

**"Spare" Circuits or Services**

Circuits or services not being used or contracted for by any customer.

**Telecommunication Services**

The transmission, emission, or reception of signals, signs, writing, images, sounds, or intelligence of any nature, by wire, cable, satellite, fiber optics, laser, radio, visual, or other electronic, electric, electromagnetic, or acoustically coupled means, or any combination thereof. The term can include necessary telecommunication facilities.

**Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System User**

Any individual, organization, or activity that interacts with the TSP System.

**TSP Assignment**

See Priority Level Assignment.

**TSP Program Office**

The operational contact for the Manager, NCS on issues concerning the Telecommunications Service Priority System. The TSP Program Office acts in the name of the Manager, NCS. All operational contact by service users with the NCS should normally be through the TSP Program Office.

**TSP System and TSP Services**

The FCC's TSP System rules establish and NCS Directive 3-1 implements the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP). Both documents reference the NSEP TSP System and NSEP services. For ease of presentation, however, this manual generally refers to the "TSP System" and "TSP services." A TSP service is an NSEP telecommunications service with a TSP assignment.